

94. The signal amplification system according to claim 50, wherein the bacterial multi-hybrid system contains:

- (a) a first chimeric polypeptide corresponding to a first fragment a of an enzyme;
- (b) a second chimeric polypeptide corresponding to a second fragment of an enzyme or a modulating substance capable of activating said enzyme;
- (c) a substance capable of stimulating or inhibiting the interaction between a target ligand and a molecule of interest, wherein the first fragment is fused to a molecule of interest and the second fragment or the modulating substance is fused to a target ligand and wherein the activity of the enzyme is restored by the interaction between the said molecule of interest and the said target ligand and wherein a signal amplification is generated; and

a bacterial strain deficient in endogenous adenylate cyclase selected from the group consisting of strain **BTH101** having C.N.C.M. Deposit Accession No. I-2309 and strain **DHM1** having C.N.C.M. Deposit Accession No. I-2310.

95. Strain **BTH101** having C.N.C.M. Deposit Accession No. I-2309, or Strain **DHM1** having C.N.C.M. Deposit Accession No. I-2310.--

#### REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-49 have been canceled. New claims 50-95 are derived from the original claims and find support throughout the specification. Accordingly, no new matter is entered by amendment.

LAW OFFICES

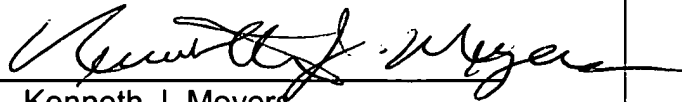
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,  
FARABOW, GARRETT,  
& DUNNER, L.L.P.  
1300 I STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20005  
202-408-4000

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary  
Amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: August 23, 2001

By:   
Kenneth J. Meyers  
Reg. No. 25,146

09010939 030304

LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,  
FARABOW, GARRETT,  
& DUNNER, L.L.P.  
1300 I STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20005  
202-408-4000